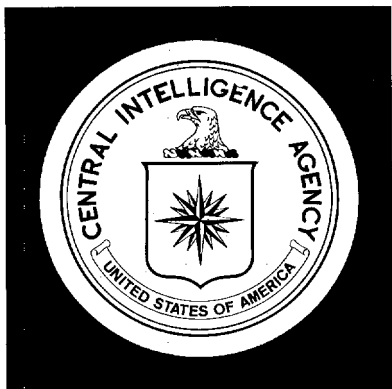


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13 September 1972

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Approved For Release 2003/08/05 : CIA-RDP79T00975A022700110002-6

Approved For Release 2003/08/05 : CIA-RDP79T00975A022700110002-6

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ROMANIA: Bucharest bids for membership in IMF and
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ROMANIA: Bucharest has requested US support for its application for membership in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). The application complements both Romania's pursuit of an independent foreign policy and its desire for greater participation in international economic and monetary affairs. It remains to be seen whether Bucharest is willing and able to meet the IMF's requirements for membership, including the regular and full reporting of economic and financial data. Yugoslavia currently is the only East European member of both organizations. Poland and Czechoslovakia, which were both charter members, dropped out during the 1950s. Romania will make formal application in mid-September, and will request interim acceptance as an observer at the IMF/World Bank meeting later in the month.

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